

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 049494
ORIGIN NEA-10

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O R 250139Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USLO RIYADH

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E.O. 11652N/A

TAGS:BTRA (RESTON, MR. AND MRS. JAMES), SA

SUBJECT:VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA OF NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST
AND MRS JAMES RESTON

1. MR. AND MRS. RESTON PLAN VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AS PART
OF TOUR WHICH INCLUDES YUGOSLAVIA AND EGYPT. ETA SAUDI
ARABIA EXPECTED MARCH 4, BUT FINAL ITINERARY DEPENDS ON
DATE SET FOR PROPOSED INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT TITO.

2. RESTON'S WASHINGTON OFFICE INFORMS US SAUDI INFOR-
MATION OFFICE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SAG TO ARRANGE
APPROPRIATE SCHEDULE IN SAUDI ARABIA AND OBTAIN VISA
AUTHORIZATIONS. WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM, SINCE ONLY
PERSONS APPARENTLY AWARE OF PROPOSED VISIT, HASSAN
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PAGE 02 STATE 049494

YASSIN (DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION OFFICE) AND AMBASSADOR
ALIREZA, ARE OUT OF WASHINGTON. IN ANY CASE, WITH RESTON
DEPARTING WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 25, TIME WAS NOT SUFFICIENT
TO OBTAIN VISA HERE.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO FOLLOW UP WITH SAG TO ASSURE THAT
IT IS IN FACT PLANNING SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS AND

AUTHORIZING VISA ISSUANCES BY SAUDI EMBASSY IN CAIRO.

4. FOR CAIRO: REQUEST YOUR ASSISTANCE AS APPROPRIATE IN
GETTING RESTONS' SAUDI VISAS. RESTON CAN BE REACHED
THROUGH NEW YORK TIMES CAIRO OFFICE (IMMOBILIA BUILDING).
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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